



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 15th June 2021

Delayed roll-out of patient data sharing programme (GDPR)

Last week there was an update that the planned roll-out of the GP Data for Planning and Research (GDPR) would be delayed by two months, from 1 July to 1 September 2021.

The LMC has been informed that communications have been sent to all practices from their DPO's. The attached information from Hayley Gidman, DPO for Lancashire (Excluding Morecambe Bay) has been **attached**.

Also you can read the BMA's full statement about the announcement to delay [here](#)

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

COVID-19 Vaccine Enhanced Service Specification

The [COVID-19 Vaccine Enhanced Service specification](#) has been updated to include the following amendments:

- **Introduction of a 3 month-maximum period for payment claims.** From the beginning of June, the deadline for practices claiming payments for COVID-19 vaccinations will be 3 calendar months following the calendar month in which the vaccination was administered, to ensure good financial governance.
- **Restriction for PCN groupings to use a single Point of Care system.** To minimise the risk of duplicate payments resulting from a PCN grouping entering vaccination events on two Point of Care systems simultaneously, PCN groupings can now only use a single Point of Care system within a single calendar month to enter new vaccination events (except for changes to existing events or during the transition period to the new Point of Care system).
- **A change to permit the administration and payment claim of a single dose vaccine.** With the introduction of new vaccines that can be given as a single dose, the specifications have been amended to allow the administration and payment claim of a single dose vaccine.

Vaccine Cohorts

Those aged [23 or over](#) are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccines and will be receiving texts inviting them to book a vaccination via the national booking service, at an NHS vaccination centre, pharmacy or GP vaccination site.

It has also today been announced that "all over-18s in England will be able to book their vaccine, by the end of the week".





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Accelerating second doses for priority cohorts 1-9

In addition, sites should continue to [bring forward the appointments for a second dose of a vaccine from 12 to 8 weeks for the remaining people in the top nine priority groups](#) who have yet to receive their second dose.

Funding and support for COVID-19 vaccination sites

NHSE/I has published a document outlining the [funding and support available for PCN and Community Pharmacy-led COVID-19 vaccination sites](#). This includes an additional £20 million to ICS/STPs to support primary care providers to draw down additional staff to help deliver the COVID-19 vaccination programme between 16 June and 14 July 2021.

Extending the Medical Examiner into Primary Care

The National Medical Examiner (NME) and other parties this week published a [letter](#) announcing the extension of the medical examiner (ME) scrutiny to non-acute settings. The new ME system is likely to be enabled through primary legislation (the Coroners and Justice Act 2009) and is due to be implemented across England and Wales through statutory instrument.

Due to the multinational aspect of the roll-out, the BMA's Professional Fees Committee (PFC), which retains negotiations in all four nations, have been involved in the discussions on how to best implement the new arrangements with the aim of minimising both the financial and operational impacts upon GPs and their practices. There have been two small trials of the ME system in primary care in Gloucestershire and the results are not yet published.

The letter presents a significant shift in the pace of implementation in primary care. The BMA is looking to analyse any secondary legislation which may underpin the new ME system. PFC has contacted the National Medical Examiner to clarify the plans and exact legal status of his letter.

New PCSE pay and pension system update

PCSE's new pay and pension system was launched on 1 June and 3,500 GPs have logged onto the system so far. BMA GPC are urging all GPs to log on and check their details and data ahead of the any need to use it. Any errors or issues identified should be [raised with PCSE](#) at the earliest opportunity. BMA GPC have been made aware post-launch that PCSE don't have contact details for approximately 6,000 GPs. They have assured that they are working on solutions for this but we would advise any GP who haven't received one or more emails from PCSE since 30 May giving access to the system contact pcse.user-registration@nhs.net in the first instance.

PCSE have posted user guidance for [practices](#) and [GPs](#) on their website.

Along with [contacting PCSE](#) around any issues do let the LMC know of the problems you are facing.





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GP registration for un/under-documented migrants

GPC England would encourage practices to use the Safe Surgeries [toolkit](#) developed by Doctors of the World (DOTW). The toolkit - endorsed by RCGP and RCN - is an accessible presentation of existing DHSC and NHSE guidance and supports clinical and non-clinical NHS staff to promote inclusive care through GP registration. Notably, it aims to address specific barriers to primary care faced by vulnerable, un/under-documented migrants by ensuring that GP practices are aware of all relevant guidance and rules. This includes, for example, that patients should not be turned away if they lack a proof of ID, address, or immigration status.

GPs and practices are encouraged by BMA GPC to consider and adopt the recommendations set out in the toolkit, particularly as it is now more important than ever that patients are registered with a GP. GP registration will likely mitigate the effects of the pandemic on health inequalities by improving equitable access to care and ensuring that marginalised and excluded communities are not missed in the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out.

DOTW also offer FREE [training](#) to clinical and non-clinical NHS staff that aims to improve awareness of migrant entitlements to NHS care and enables staff to better advocate for their patients.

Deadline for the EU Settlement Scheme – 30 June

The deadline for applications to be made to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) is 30 June 2021.

If you are a doctor currently in the UK and arrived before the 31 December 2020, you must apply by 30 June. It is free of charge, and in applying and being granted pre-settled or settled status, you will have secured your rights to continue living and working in the UK.

In addition, an application must be made for every eligible child within your family. If you and your family members have lived in the UK for many years or have a permanent residence document or EEA Biometric Residence Card (BRC), you still need to apply to the EUSS (or apply for British citizenship) to secure your existing rights in the UK.

[Apply on GOV.UK](#) and check your immigration status [here](#).

National workforce reporting system (NWRS) – part of the workforce Minimum Data Set (wMDS)

NHS Digital are improving the way they collect information on staff in Primary Care. If you are an NWRS user, you will need to register for the new system. This will ensure you have access to the improved NWRS when it goes live in July 2021, where all your staff records will then be ready and waiting for you.

A registration email should have recently been sent to you from noreply.data.collections@nhs.uk however, it may have gone into your junk folder.

